

ISSUE 10

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eco-tips

PART TWO: Simple ideas for your business;

- Check the **star ratings** and kilowatt-hours per year on the label before purchasing your next **electrical appliance**. Buying the most stars but the least kWh per year means that your next coffee machine will not only make a great brew, but keep your electricity bill down too.
- **Consider the font size** used in your workplace or office. One hundred workers, all printing off one extra page, per document, per day, per year because of a font size which is unnecessarily large could cut back on paper and printer cartridge use drastically.
- In our December-2010 newsletter, we featured a product called the **ecoswitch**. The **ecoswitch** eliminates standby power from appliances, saving small commercial premises \$86 per year on average and up to \$3,343 for large premises. www.ecoswitch.com.au for more.

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eco-news & events

We begin this newsletter congratulating Jane Hillard of Ecostyle, who gave birth to a baby girl, Hazel, in the middle of March. The new arrival in the office has visited on numerous occasions now, and she is a very healthy and beautiful girl.

In case you missed our March newsletter, we are have settled into our new location at 202A Liverpool Street. The added space and flexibility have been proving beneficial as we continue to work on our exciting projects. We have started projects at Paradise, Charlottes Cove and Sandy Bay; with several more in the pipeline.

We have also recently had the privilege to revisit previously completed projects to photograph them. A big thank you to the owners who welcomes us into their homes. It was gratifying to see how comfortable and lived in the houses were, plus how each owner had personalised the spaces. Watch our web page in the next few months for photographs and updates.

Potential of Living Walls

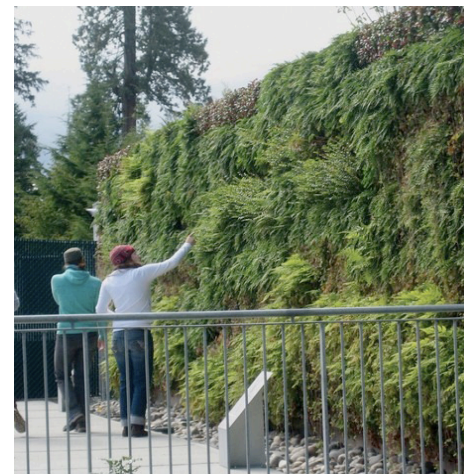
“Watch a tree. It has a thousand branches, it moves, grows, changes colour” - Edouard Francois.

Living or “green walls”, including vines, terracing and building facades provide many benefits. These include the “blanket effect”, meaning that the living walls shade a building in summer which reduce the cooling requirements. Similarly in winter they help insulate the building, aiding in keeping it warm for those cooler months.

Growing plants not only trap carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, but soak up pollutants and block noise. An additional benefit is to grow produce such as passion fruit, strawberries and herbs. The oxygen produced can compensate for the Co2 produced during the building process, offsetting any negative effects. What about maintenance? Surprisingly, living walls don't require elaborate watering systems.

Talk to us about how you can incorporate an eco friendly green wall into your design ideas.

feature product



An example of a living wall on a large scale.

- residential
- multi residential
- commercial
- concept design
- site selection
- master planning
- interior design
- renovations
- extensions
- project management



feature project

Miller Fisher House, Opossum Bay, Tasmania.

In today's society, we often find ourselves asking the question about what sustainable design really mean? The Miller Fisher House sets about to tackle the challenge of sustainable design through its distinctly small footprint; the area of the building, surrounded by external walls, that sits on the site.

Despite this quality the owners cannot express their amazement enough in the spacious and flexible living that this house provides. This house is the result of the client's interest in art and a 'funky' lifestyle mixed in with the serenity and local traits associated with Opossum Bay.

The open plan form allows for light to penetrate from one space to another, aided by the considerate placement of the windows and doors. Visitors to the space are welcomed upon entry by the extensive book case, that directs movement through to the internal volumes of the house. The living area, which includes the kitchen, demonstrates the ideal of flexible and comfortable living.

Feng Shui and Sustainable Buildings.

eco-related
business

Traditional Feng Shui and sustainable building design are natural bed fellows. Sauvage Feng Shui suggests the following 7 tips for your next building or retrofit:

Touch lightly the earth. Make sure that there is the least disturbance of the earth. Work with the contours;

Building materials. Natural building materials such as mud brick, fired bricks, wood, stone, straw and hemp bales.;

Heating. Hydronic heating with water filled radiators are excellent – avoid in-floor heating;

Water. Don't put the water tanks under the house – this holds qi and results in accumulation of yin qi;

Recycled Materials. There is no problem with recycling materials unless they come from places which have accumulated negative qi such as abattoirs, penitentiaries, hospitals and such;

EMF's. Avoid WiFi and DEC style phones, steel framing, reinforced concrete floors, walls from corrugated iron; and

Sha Qi. Avoid exposure to sha qi and gather sheng qi where possible.

Why don't you join our monthly chat at Chados? Go to http://www.sauvage-feng-shui.com/_webapp_851406/Tea_Green_Design_and_Feng_Shui to find out more.